

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

AID-20 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 IGA-02 AGR-20

DRC-01 /155 W

----- 019516

R 182106Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2364

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY BANAOKO

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 296

UNCLAS USUN 0174

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: AORGN UNDP, EAID

SUBJECT: UNDP 17TH GC - COUNTRY PROGRAM REVIEW AND
APPROVAL FOR AFRICA

1. SUMMARY. UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL JANUARY 16 APPROVED COUNTRY PROGRAMS FOR BURUNDI, BAMBIA, MALI, NIGER, SENEGAL, SOMALIA. ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AFRICA (AA/A) DOO KINGUE HIGHLIGHTED SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF "LEAST DEVELOPED" AND DROUGHT STRIKEN COUNTRIES, EFFORTS TO INCREASE COORDINATION OF ALL DONOR ASSISTANCE, AS WELL AS MEASURES TO COMBAT ONCHOCERIASIS. SIXTEEN DELEGATIONS INTERVENED IN SUPPORT OF CP'S END SUMMARY.

2. AA/A IN PRESENTING SIX AFRICAN COUNTRY PROGRAMS FOR GC APPROVAL NOTED THAT FOUR OF SIX COUNTRIES (BAMBIA, MALI, NIGER, SENEGAL) WER AFFLICTED BY SAHELIAN DROUGHT AND FOUR OF SIX (BURUNDI, MALI, NIGER, SOMALIA) AMONG THE "LEAST DEVELOPED," WITH MALI AND NIGER BEARING DOUBLE BURDEN AS WELL AS COPING WITH PROBLEMS OF ONCHOCERCIASIS (RIVER UNCLASSIFIED

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BLINDNESS). HE THEN SUMMARIZED ACTIONS OF UNDP SINCE 16TH

GC DEALING WITH THESE THREE MAJOR PROBLEMS. CONCERNING SAHELIAN DROUGHT, HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE SOME EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE HAD BEEN GIVEN, UNDP MANDATE PRIMARILY FOR MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. UNDP ACTIONS INCLUDE FUNDING GROUND -WATER RESEARCH, STRENGTHENING RELEVANT ON-GOING REGIONAL PROJECTS AND STUDYING MEANS OF STRENGTHENING CHAD AND NIGER RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS. DROUGHT PROBLEM ALSO AFFECTING NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, WHICH BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED. HE REPORTED CONCERTED ATTACK ON ONCHOCERCIASIS WITH TWENTY YEAR PROGRAM BEING LAUNCHED BY WHO WITH MULTI-DONOR FUNDS HELD IN TRUST BY WORLD BANK. UNDP CONTRIBUTING SMALL INITIAL AMOUNTS PRIMARILY FOR TRAINING AND PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH TO DEVELOP NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PROGRAM. NUMBER OF INITIATIVES ALSO TAKEN UNDER SPECIAL MEASURES FOR "LEAST DEVELOPED." THESE TO BE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL UNDER AGENDA ITEM 6. HE ALSO ANALYZED PROPORTIONS IPF'S DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HUMAN RESOURCES, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND STRESSED THAT INTEGRATED PLANNING APPROACH USED AT COUNTRY LEVEL SO THAT ASSISTANCE FROM IPF'S AND SPECIAL FUNDS FOR SAHEL DROUGHT AND "LEAST DEVELOPED" WERE COMPLEMENTARY. AA/A ALSO IMPRESSED BY DESIRE ALL SIX COUNTRIES TO IMPROVE ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY.

3. COUNTRY INTERVENTIONS--SIXTEEN DELEGATIONS INTERVENED. MOST COMMENTS BRIEF AND SUPPORTIVE, DEALING WITH KEY ISSUES INCLUDING SECTORAL PRIORITIES, DONOR COORDINATION, LONG TERM MEASURES TO COMBAT DROUGHT AND ONCHOCERCIASIS, AND A FEW SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR PROJECT MODIFICATION. SWISS, FRG, BELGIAN DELEGATIONS CITED CONTRIBUTIONS THEIR BILATERAL ASSISTANCE. NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM STRESSED HEIGHTENED IMPORTANCE OF DONOR COORDINATION PARTICULARLY DUE TO INCREASED NUMBER OF DONORS ACTIVE IN DROUGHT STRICKEN AND "LEAST DEVELOPED" COUNTRIES. U.S. DELEGATION (AMB. FERGUSON) NOTED IMPROVEMENT IN CONCENTRATION ON KEY SECTORS AND IN STRENGTHENING UN COORDINATION ROLE IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, HE URGED GREATER CONSOLIDATION OF SMALL SCALE PROJECTS, MORE EMPHASIS ON IN-COUNTRY TRAINING, ACCELERATED IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PROJECTS, AND PROMPT FILLING OF ALL RESREP VACANCIES WHEREVER THEY OCCUR WITH EXPERIENCED ADMINISTRATORS ABLE TO HANDLE

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ENLARGED ROLE WHICH AID COMMUNITY ANTICIPATES OF UNDP. PHILIPPINES COMMENDED UNDP ADMINISTRATION FOR INCREASED DEGREE OF SOPHISTICATION OF PRESENT CP'S OVER THOSE OF PAST SESSIONS. FRANCE CONGRATULATED UNDP FOR MORE PROMPT CIRCULATION OF CP DOCUMENTS TO GC MEMBERS, BUT QUESTIONED TWO CP PROJECTS WHERE FRENCH BILATERAL ASSISTANCE WAS PRESUMED AND YET NEVER CONFIRMED BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT. SUDAN REITERATED NEEDS OF DROUGHT STRICKEN

AREAS, AND REMINDED GC THAT WESTERN PROVINCES OF SUDAN ALSO STRIKEN ALTHOUGH SUDAN NOT ADMINISTRATIVELY INCLUDED IN UNDP AFRICA REGION. AA/A THANKED ALL DELEGATIONS FOR THEIR COMMENTS, GAVE ASSURANCE SUGGESTIONS, WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT DURING PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION, ALSO ASSURED SUDAN DELETATION THAT SUDAN WOULD BE INCLUDED IN REGIONAL PROJECTS TO COMBAT DROUGHT.

4. ALL SIX CP'S APPROVED AT JANUARY 16 PLENARY SESSION. U.S. MISSION FIELD ANALYSES NIGER, SOMALIA, GAMBIA, CP'S PARTICULARLY USEFUL. IT IS HOPED THAT U.S. MISSIONS WILL ENCOURAGE UNDP AND RECIPIENT COUNTIES TO UNDERTAKE THOROUGH SUBSTANTIVE ANNUAL REVIEWS EACH CP AND THAT NEXT CERP 008 FROM THESE COUNTRIES WILL TREAT PROGRESS TOWARD TRIPARTITE EVALUATION TO EXTENT POSSIBLE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, DISASTER RELIEF, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS, DROUGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974USUNN00174
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740130/aaaabcfo.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 FEB 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNDP 17TH GC - COUNTRY PROGRAM REVIEW AND APPROVAL FOR AFRICA
TAGS: AORG, EAID, XJ, UNDP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005